# AWARENESS ABOUT TEACHERS ELIGIBILITY TEST (TET) AMONG PUPIL-TEACHERS

By

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### **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this study is to find out the awareness about Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) among pupil-teachers. A sample of 200 pupil-teachers randomly selected pursing B.Ed. degrees in B.Ed colleges in the eastern region of India participated in this study. The study used a survey design. An awareness about TET scale was used to collect data from pupil-teachers. The result of the study indicated that the students belonging to urban areas are more aware about TET than the rural areas students. Further, the prospective teachers of science stream had more awareness about TET. So, it is suggested that the required resources and facilities should be provided to the pupil-teachers during their training to get knowledge and awareness about Teacher Eligibility Test.

Keywords: Awareness, Pupil-Teachers, Teacher Eligibility Test.

#### INTRODUCTION

Education is a process of acquiring knowledge and skills and it soley depends upon the teachers. Quality teacher education is in demand across all countries yet there are many contradictions as to what indicates and how to identify these professionals. Effective teaching depends upon a teacher with knowledge, skills, and a variety of tools like technology access. Factors like age, location, and level of a schools will influence teaching (Annamalai, 2000), but the teacher's attitude and dispositions are major influencing variables for effective teaching. It is recommended to identify teaching aptitude or possible variables that would define successful teaching candidate before they enter in to the profession of teaching. National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), New Delhi supports Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) to evaluate the entry behavior and potential for successful teaching ability. This instrument is recommended by both Central and State governments in India. The rationale for including the TET as a minimum eligibility criteria for a person to appoint as a teacher is to bring national standards and benchmark of teacher quality in the recruitment process and to lay special emphasis on teacher quality. The NCERT

has decided to improve the quality in teacher education by conducting Central Teacher Eligibility Test (CTET) and it recommends to State Governments to conduct the eligibility test at state. Even pupil-teachers also considered TET as a crucial test for maintaining quality education at school level (Behera, 2018).

## 1. Research Effort on Awareness about Teacher Eligibility Test

A study carried by Christina (2016) with 500 student teachers in survey method found that there is no significant difference among the attitude of B.Ed. student-teachers towards Tamil Nadu Teacher Eligibility Test with respect to their Gender, but a significant difference exhibited between urban and rural B.Ed. students in attitude towards TET. Further, there is significant difference among the attitude of B.Ed. student-teachers towards TET with respect to their Medium of Instruction. The finding of the study have shown some vital reasons behind the attitudes exhibited by the teachers regarding TET, which was mainly due to the importance of TET, its necessity, and the problems faced by the teachers while attending TET (Christina, 2016). Further, a study by Lakshmi and Ashok (2017) surveyed 300 B.Ed. trainees to find their attitude towards Teacher Eligibility Test.

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The findings had revealed that there is a moderate attitude towards teacher eligibility test among the selected B.Ed trainees in Coimbatore district.

Moreover, a study investigated by Devi (2018) on attitude towards teaching among working teacher found that teachers working in schools are satisfied with the working condition of the school and they have adjusted themselves to the school environment. Due to lack of modern teaching materials, the teachers do face certain problems in the instructional process. According to the teachers, the books prescribed for different classes are both of easy and difficult type. Expectations of the majority of them found to become an action oriented teacher. In respect to the Diploma in Elementary Education (D.El.Ed.) course, the study observed that they understood the need and importance of such program. Further, it is quite clear that the attitude of teachers towards the D. El. Ed. the program existed at the beginning has changed compared at the end of the program. This change is noticed among the teachers which suggest that the training program is well perceived by the teachers. Working environment does matter the attitude of the teachers.

The teacher education has some lack in quality because the outcome of the quality teacher in teacher education colleges is low; some private management does not consider the quality of education and they depend on earning money.

Again a study by Kumarvelu (2015) investigated attitude of reputed and remote side of private school teachers towards Teacher Eligibility Test (TET). The tool of Attitude towards TET was constructed and standardized by the investigator. The Researcher collected the data from 162 private school teachers in Cuddalore District, India and simple random technique was used in his study. This study discloses that the attitude of private school teachers have high TET attitude and the private school teachers attitude is not significant with respect to gender and locality. Furthermore, there is a significant difference in TET attitude between rural and urban area school teachers. Further, a study carried by Murugan and Srinivasan (2014) revealed that the attitude of private school teachers have high attitude towards teacher eligibility test with significant

difference in their gender and locality.

#### 2. Research Problem

The destiny of India is shaped by the teachers. The profession of teaching is noble due to its high moral and ethical quality. So, it is better to select a good person or person having high morality, knowledge, and effective skills of teaching. Teacher eligibility is a step to check these qualities among prospective teachers. Students those have knowledge about subject content but unable to teach properly in the classroom means that they have lack of ability to present the material in the class effectively. The knowledge about teacher eligibility test among pupilteachers enhances teaching skills. Hence, there is a need of creating awareness about teacher eligibility test. After scanning the literature, it is found that there is a scanty of research in this areas and moreover all studies are based on attitude towards teacher eligibility test. Hence, the present study is planned to investigate the awareness about teacher-eligibility test among pupil-teachers.

# 3. Objectives of the Study

- To study the significant difference in awareness about TET between boys and girls pupil-teachers.
- To study the significant difference in awareness about TET between Arts and Science pupil-teachers.
- To study the significant difference in awareness about TET between urban and rural pupil-teachers.

# 4. Hypotheses of the Study

- There exist a significant difference in awareness about TET between boys and girls pupil-teachers.
- There exist a significant difference in awareness about TET between Arts and Science pupil-teachers.
- There exist a significant difference in awareness about TET between urban and rural pupil-teachers.

# 5. Methodology

The study is based on descriptive survey method. The sample consists of 200 students teachers studying in different B.Ed colleges affiliated to North Orissa University, Baripada, Odisha, India.

# 5.1 Tools Used

A tool like 'Awareness About TET (AAT) scale' is used to

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measure the awareness level of students teacher, which was constructed and standardized by the investigator. The scale consists of 40 positive items. Five point rating sclae like strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, and strongly disagree were used to rate the items. The face and content validity were found. The reliability of the tool is 0.77 which was found by test-retest method.

### 6. Analysis and Interpretation

It is shown from Table 1 that the mean scores of boys and girls pupil-teacher on awareness about TET are 65.94 and 66.04 with SDs 4.56 and 4.32, respectively. The t-ratio comes out to be 0.34, which is not significant at any level of significance. That means there is no significant differences in awareness between boys and girls pupil-teacher about TET. However, the mean score of girls pupil-teacher is higher than the boys students. It implies that the girl students have some extent more awared about TET. Thus, the hypothesis  $(H_1)$  that 'there exist a significant difference in awareness about TET between boys and girls pupil-teachers' is rejected.

It is shown from Table 2, the mean score of Arts and Science pupil-teachers on awareness about TET are 63.46 and 65.10 with SDs 4.04 and 5.01, respectively. The t-ratio came out to be 2.24, which is significant at .05 level of significance. That means there is a significant difference in awareness between pupil-teachers having Arts and Science background. Moreover, the mean score of Science students is higher than the Arts students. That

Variable	Groups	N	Mean	SD	SED	t-ratio	Level of Significance
Awareness about TET	Boys	81	65.94	4.5	1.12	0.34	Not Significant
	Girls	119	66.04	5.0			

Table Value of 198 df at .01 level: 2.48

Table 1. Significance of Difference between Male and Female Pupil-Teacher on Awareness about TET

Variable	Groups	N	Mean	SD	SED	t-ratio	Level of Significance
Awareness about TET	Arts	111	62.46	4.04	1.35	2.24	.05
	Science	89	65.10	5.01			

Table 2. Significance of Difference between Arts and Science Stream Pupil-Teacher about TET

means Science students have more awareness about TET. Thus, the hypothesis  $(H_2)$  that 'there exist a significant difference in awareness about TET between Arts and Science pupil-teachers' is retained.

It is shown from Table 3, that the mean scores of rural and urban pupil teachers on awareness about TET are 65.67 and 62.27 with SDs 4.38 and 4.31, respectively. The t-ratio comes out to be 2.43, which is significant at .05 level of significance. That means there is a significant difference between rural and urban student teacher on awareness about TET. Further, the mean scores of urban students are higher than the rural. It indicates that pupil-teachers belonging to urban areas have more awareness about TET as compared to their counter parts. Thus the hypothesis (H<sub>3</sub>) that there exists a significant difference in awareness about TET between urban and rural pupil-teachers.

#### 7. Findings and Discussion of the Result

The teachers have a significant role to enhance the quality education at school level. The person those who have passion and skill to teach should be appointed. So the Government should take initiative to check the ability and skills of prospective teachers. The findings of the study revealed that students teacher having Science background have more awareness about TET as compared to Arts students. The findings were supported by Behera (2018), whereas contradicted with the results of Sharma (2012). So, some motivation program should be given to the Arts students to pursue and create awareness about TET.

Further, the urban students have more awareness towards TET as compared to the rural students. An awareness program should be created about the need and importance of TET on becoming a teachers. One class of coaching of TET should be organised in the training colleges. So, teacher educators should prepare and always be at their best for enhancing awareness about TET

Variable	Groups	N	Mean	SD	SED	t-ratio	Level of Significance
Attitude Towards TET	Urban	40	65.67	4.38	1.41 2.43	.05	
	Rural	60	62.27	4.31		2.40	.00

Table 3. Significance of difference between Urban and Rural Pupil-Teachers on Awareness about TET

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through organising workshop and seminar in the schools.

#### 8. Recommendation

The similar study can also be conducted at other level of teacher education courses. The perception and attitude can also be studied towards this teacher eligibility test. A correlational study can also be taken adding more variables with awareness about TET.

#### Conclusion

Positive attitude of prospective teachers is highly needed for pursuing and having course in the teacher training colleges. If the students have negative attitude and are not aware about the eligibility criteria and the test of teacher selection, then they cannot participate in this teacher selection process. Conducting teacher eligibility test for selecting teachers is important and an urgent need to maintain qualitative education in the schools. It a good step towards preparing effective teachers who can understand students' problems and ability before delivering the lesson. Some changes in curriculum and policy is helpful to create awareness among pupil-teachers about teacher eligibility test.

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